

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Keisuke Morita et al.

Application No.: 10/597,505

Confirmation No.: 2085

Filed: July 27, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: SURFACE-COATED CUTTING TOOL
MADE OF HARD METAL AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR SAME

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign applications filed in the following foreign country on the dates indicated:

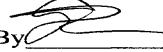
| Country | Application No. | Date |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| Japan | 2004-022535 | January 30, 2004 |
| Japan | 2004-146397 | May 17, 2004 |
| Japan | 2004-146398 | May 17, 2004 |
| Japan | 2004-212896 | July 21, 2004 |

Certified copies of the aforesaid Patent Applications were received by the International Bureau on March 24, 2005 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP2005/001208. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

Dated: August 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By



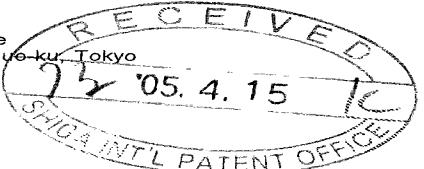
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Attorneys/Agents For Applicant

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

**NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL
OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT**

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

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| To: | SHIGA, Masatake 2-3-1, Yaesu, Chuo-ku Tokyo 1048453 JAPON | |
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|--|--|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 06 April 2005 (06.04.2005) | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference PC-9410 | | |
| International application No. PCT/JP05/001208 | International filing date (day/month/year) 28 January 2005 (28.01.2005) | |
| International publication date (day/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) 30 January 2004 (30.01.2004) | |
| Applicant MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORPORATION et al | | |

- By means of this Form, which replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents, the applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to all earlier application(s) whose priority is claimed. Unless otherwise indicated by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column or by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- (If applicable) The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- (If applicable) An asterisk (*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as the priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

| Priority date | Priority application No. | Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office | Date of receipt of priority document |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 30 January 2004 (30.01.2004) | 2004-022535 | JP | 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005) |
| 17 May 2004 (17.05.2004) | 2004-146397 | JP | 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005) |
| 17 May 2004 (17.05.2004) | 2004-146398 | JP | 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005) |
| 21 July 2004 (21.07.2004) | 2004-212896 | JP | 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005) |

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| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer Blanco Patrick |
| Faxsimile No. +41 22 338 90 90 Telephone No. +41 22 338 8702 | |

Form PCT/IB/304 (January 2004)